

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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R 081800Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1504

AMEMBASSY LISBON

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

USCINCEUR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MADRID 2383

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SP, PO

SUBJ: PRESS INTERVIEW WITH PORTUGUESE LIBERATION ARMY

REF: A. LISBON 1643 AND B. LISBON 1668

1. OFFICIAL NATIONAL MOVEMENT DAILY "ARRIBA" PUBLISHED APRIL 8, FRONT-PAGE INTERVIEW INCLUDING PHOTOS WITH MEMBERS OF SO-CALLED PORTUGUESE LIBERATION ARMY (PLA). ACCORDING TO REPORTER WHO MADE INTERVIEW, HE CONTACTED GROUP INDIRECTLY IN SPAIN AND HELD INTERVIEW JUST OVER BORDER IN FRANCE SEEMINGLY NOT FAR FROM CATALONIA. HIS INTERLOCUTORS IDENTIFIED THEMSELVES AS "SPOKESMEN OF PROVISIONAL COMMAND OF PORTUGUESE LIBERATION ARMY" (REFTELS). PHOTOS OF THREE MEMBERS OF PLA SHOWED THREE PERSONS WITH HOODS AND COPIES OF FRENCH NEWSPAPERS "LE MONDE" AND "FRANCE SOIR". HOODED MEMBERS OF PLA SAID ITS OBJECTIVES WERE THREE: (A) RESOTRATION OF NATIONAL UNITY WHICH HAS BEEN DESTROYED BY MARXIST SUBVERSION, (B) INDEPENDENCE OF FATHERLAND, AND (C) LIBERATION OF CULTURE. THEY SAID THAT THEY HAD VERY STRICT INTERNAL SECURITY RULES; THEIR BASIC METHOD WOULD BE REVOLUTIONARY WAR. THEY DID NOT ADVOCATE RETURN TO PAST, THAT IS BEFORE APRIL 25,1974, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THEY SAID MILITARY COUP WAS ORCHESTRATED IN A LARGE PART BY

COMMUNIST PARTY. THEY DENIED THAT THEIR ORGANIZATION HAD HAD ANY PART WHATSOEVER IN MARCH 11 "TRAGICOMEDY".

2. REPORTER WHO MADE INTERVIEW CHECKED IN MADRID ON POST OFFICE ADDRESS GIVEN BY COLONEL CORVACHO AS ONE OF TWO SPANISH ADDRESSES WHICH WERE ALLEGEDLY USED TO BACKSTOP PLA (REFTELS). P.O. BOX 1134 TURNED OUT TO BE ADDRESS OF MARIANO SANCHEZ COVISA, WELL-KNOWN LEADER OF SO-CALLED GUERRILLAS OF CHRIST THE KING, AN EXTREME RIGHTIST ORGANIZATION. SANCHEZ COVISA TOLD REPORTER THAT THERE WAS NO RELATION WHATSOEVER BETWEEN P.O. 1134 AND PLA. MOREOVER, HE ADDED, SECOND ADDRESS CITED BY CORVACHO IN HIS OPORTO STATEMENT WAS MARIANO, S.A., A NON-EXISTENT FIRM.

3. COMMENT: APPEARANCE OF THIS INTERVIEW IN NEWSPAPER CONTROLLED EXCLUSIVELY BY NATIONAL MOVEMENT, COUPLED WITH SEEMINGLY CALCULATED APPEARANCE OF FRENCH NEWSPAPERS IN TWO PHOTOS, SUGGESTS THAT GOS MIGHT BE BEHIND EFFORT TO CLEAR SPAIN OF ANY INVOLVEMENT WITH SO-CALLED PLA. REPORTER'S INTERVIEW WITH RIGHT-WING LEADER OF "GUERRILLAS OF CHRIST THE KING" SUPPORTS THIS HYPOTHESIS INASMUCH AS INTERVIEW ENDS UP BY REMOVING ANY BASIS IN FACT FOR PORTUGUESE COLONEL'S ALLEGATIONS OF CONNECTIONS BETWEEN SPANISH ADDRESSES AND SUPPORT FOR PLA. BESIDES HELPING REFUTE RUMORS AND CHARGES BY PORTUGUESE AUTHORITIES OF GOS SUPPORT FOR PORTUGUESE DISSIDENTS, ARTICLE ALSO BRINGS HOME ONCE AGAIN PET GOS POINT THAT FRENCH ARE NEGLIGENT IN CONTROLLING POLITICAL ACTIVITIES OF EMIGRE GROUPS ON THEIR TERRITORY.  
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## Message Attributes

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